GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1582
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
DUST CONTROL SYSTEM
BIKASH CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust on Dust Control System in March, 1990;

(b) whether the system is still not working; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to make it functional?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): Rs.5.25 crores

(b)&(c): The Dust Control System at JNPT was supplied and installed by the contractors as part of a contract for Bulk handling facility awarded in November, 1986. Since the port Trust was not satisfied with the performance of some of the systems supplied by the contractor including the Dust Control System, they withheldfinal stage payment of 10% in respect of price of goods and services to the contractor. Efforts made by the Port Trust to get the defects and deficiencies rectified by the contractor did not yield the desired results. On a reference made by the contractor, the issue of withholding of payment to the contractor became the subject matter of Arbitration. The Arbitration Award directing JNPT to release the withheld payments was published in July, 1997.During the Arbitration proceedings, no progress in the matter of rectification of the defects and deficiencies was made. After settlement of the Arbitration Award, the Port Trust again made attempts to make the Dust Control System operational but to no avail.
Considering the volume of dry bulk traffic handled during the recent past and the remote prospects for further growth in the fertilizers, fertilizers raw material and food grains traffic at JNPT in the near future, JNPT has not considered it advisable to incurfurther expenditure in making the Dust Control System operational.